



## **Top Stories**

- Bloomberg reports that Alaska's Cook Inlet Pipeline Co. will suspend operations after
  Mount Redoubt erupted in the state on Saturday. A vice president with Cook Inlet Pipeline
  said it will not accept oil for storage or transport until activity at the volcano ceases. (See
  item 3)
- According to Reuters, police were investigating a suspicious package containing white powder found Friday at a Citibank branch office in New York's financial district. The building was evacuated, and the investigation was ongoing. (See item 14)

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### **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <a href="Physical: ELEVATED">Physical: ELEVATED</a>, <a href="Cyber: ELEVATED">Cyber: ELEVATED</a>

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *April 6, Associated Press* – (Indiana; Michigan) **Heavy, wet snow causes problems in Mich, Ind.** Heavy, wet snow knocked out electrical service to thousands of customers and snarled morning traffic on April 6 in Northern Indiana and Southeast Michigan. The National Weather Service said up to 7 inches of snow fell in the Detroit area, and Northern Indiana got at least 4 inches. Michigan's CMS Energy Corp. and DTE Energy

Co. and Indiana's Indiana Michigan Power said about 79,000 of their customers were blacked out as the weight of the snow snapped branches and power lines. Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090406/ap\_on\_re\_us/severe\_weather;\_ylt=AijwKLXNTb\_c4HerGpd.dMSJvzwcF

2. April 6, News Journal – (Delaware) Driver survives as gasoline tanker rolls over on Del. 1 ramp. Southbound traffic on Delaware 1 was halted north of the Roth Bridge over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal for almost six hours on April 5 after a gasoline tanker truck rolled over an embankment on an exit ramp on the south side of the span. The accident happened at 9:15 a.m. on the Lorewood Grove Ramp, just south of the Roth Bridge. The tractor-trailer, which was carrying fuel, went off the road, hit a guardrail, and then tumbled down the embankment. The driver was trapped in the overturned cab for more than two hours, Delaware State Police said. Police said the driver took the ramp turn too fast and struck the guardrail. He was cited for unreasonable speed.

Source: http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20090406/NEWS/904060320

3. April 5, Bloomberg – (Alaska) Alaska Cook Inlet pipeline to suspend operations after eruption. Alaska's Cook Inlet Pipeline Co., jointly owned by Chevron Corp. and Pacific Energy Resources, will suspend operations after a volcano erupted in the state on April 4, according to a statement posted on the U.S. Coast Guard Web Site. Mount Redoubt had "a major eruption" and is experiencing "continued unrest," according to the statement from the Unified Command, which includes Cook Inlet Pipeline, the Coast Guard, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Cook Inlet Pipeline will not accept oil for storage or transport until activity at the volcano ceases, a vice president with Cook Inlet Pipeline said in the statement. A tanker ship is tentatively scheduled to arrive on April 5 at the Christy Lee platform to draw oil from the Drift River Terminal, with the goal to reduce stocks of the fuel by 60 percent, according to the statement. About 148,000 barrels of oil are at the terminal, according to the state. No spills had been reported as of April 4, according to a state report. The terminal and related pipeline were closed March 23 following an earlier eruption of Mount Redoubt. Source:

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=awy.6\_gFfMPE&refer=energy

4. *April 4, TheDay.com* – (Connecticut) **I-395 shut down by flipped gasoline tanker.** In Plainfield, Interstate 395 remained closed in both directions late during the evening of April 3 after a noontime accident left a tanker carrying 6,500 gallons of gasoline on its side near Exit 88 of the northbound lanes. The driver of the tanker was taken to the William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich and treated for minor injuries, police said. A spokesman from the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said the truck lost a small amount of fuel, but would not disclose how much. A DEP spokeswoman said the leak was brought under control by late afternoon and no nearby wells or streams were contaminated.

Source: http://www.theday.com/re.aspx?re=966e1c9b-2dbe-473f-b9ff-8514e7336b16

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

- 5. April 3, CCH (Missouri) OSHA proposes more than \$1.2 million penalty to St. Louis area chemical repackaging and distribution company. OSHA has cited St. Louis, Missouri-based G.S. Robins & Co., doing business as Ro-Corp Inc., for alleged willful, repeat, and serious violations of federal workplace safety standards, proposing more than \$1.2 million in penalties for numerous violations relating to the handling of hazardous chemicals at the company's facility in East St. Louis. OSHA began an inspection, at the East St. Louis site, after learning that employees had been admitted to several local hospitals after being contaminated with an unknown powder. OSHA later learned that the eight hospitalized individuals had been exposed to the chemical paranitroaniline (PNA), a poison that causes methemoglobinemia, resulting in the reduction of the blood's ability to transport oxygen. The employees had been performing a chemical transfer operation at the East St. Louis worksite when chemical dust was released, settling on work surfaces and the employees. As a result of its investigation, OSHA issued 21 willful citations, 20 of which were cited on a per-instance basis, relating to eight instances of failing to provide employees with the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) for transferring PNA; four instances of failing to provide training on the use of PPE and on working with hazardous chemicals; three instances of failing to provide PPE training and training on specific PNA-transfer procedures; and five instances of failing to fit-test employees using respirators.
  - Source: http://hr.cch.com/news/safety/040309a.asp
- 6. April 3, Birmingham News (Alabama) Jefferson County officials reopen roads near Fairfield, Hueytown after chemical spill incident. Authorities have reopened roads closed near Fairfield and Hueytown, Alabama after a hazardous materials leak under a raised portion of Interstate 59 on April 3. The spill began about 1:30 p.m. when an 18wheeler pulled off the side of the road at the intersection of Allison-Bonnett Memorial Drive and Rutledge Drive. The truck was carrying barrels of a chemical compound widely used as automotive antifreeze, said the Jefferson County sheriff's spokesman. The barrels came loose inside the back of the truck and rolled to the back door, forcing it open with the fluid then leaking. The leak has been cleaned and the roads are clear. Source: http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2009/04/jefferson county officials reo.html

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# **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

7. April 6, Reuters – (Florida) FPL Fla. St Lucie 2 reactor back at full power. FPL Group Inc.'s 839-megawatt Unit 2 at the Saint Lucie nuclear power station in Florida exited an outage and ramped up to full power by April 6, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The company shut the unit on April 1 due to lowering condenser vacuum caused by algae and seaweed clogging the cooling water intake. Source:

http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN06158817200

#### 90406

8. April 6, Reuters – (New York) Entergy NY Indian Pt 2 reactor back at full power.

Entergy Corp.'s 1,020-megawatt Unit 2 at the Indian Point nuclear power station in New York exited an outage and ramped up to full power by early on April 6, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut on April 3 after one of the plant's two main boiler feed pumps stopped operating.

Source:

http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN06378112200 90406

See also: <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44967">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44967</a>

9. *April 6, Reuters* – (Iowa) **FPL Iowa Duane Arnold reactor ramps up after outage.** FPL Group Inc.'s 580-megawatt Duane Arnold nuclear power station in Iowa exited an outage and ramped up to 78 percent power by April 6, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The company shut the unit on April 3 due to increasing reactor water level while operators were calibrating reactor water level and pressure instruments.

Source:

http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN06546338200 90406

See also: <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44965">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44965</a>

10. April 3, Post-Standard – (New York) NRC finds violation at Nine Mile 1. The nuclear reactor at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station Unit 1 was run at higher power than allowed and then turned back down without the right supervisors being informed about it until the next shift had begun, federal investigators said. The plant ran at 100.03 percent of its licensed capacity for approximately one hour on January 18, 2008, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a March 16 letter to the Nine Mile Point vice president. The letter lays out investigators' findings about the incident. It says an unidentified reactor operator increased power beyond the plant's limit without permission; the chief reactor operator and the reactor operator manipulated reactor controls to turn the power back down without getting approval of a senior reactor operator; and the chief reactor operator did not report the change immediately, as required. Instead, the "over power" situation was not reported until the next shift. The letter said both the reactor operator and the chief reactor operator "engaged in deliberate misconduct." The NRC is classifying the incident as something more than minor "because it involved willfulness," the letter says. Source:

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/nrc finds violation at nine mi.html

11. *April 3, St. Louis Post Dispatch* – (Missouri) **U. of Missouri hopes to produce key medical isotope.** Each year, thousands of patients are injected with technetium 99m, a radioactive substance used for medical imaging tests. Doctors across the country who prescribe tests using the isotope are very concerned about its long-term supply because

of persistent problems with the foreign nuclear reactors that are currently the world's only source. Hospitals are already delaying medical procedures because of the shortage of the isotope, prompting fears of inferior treatment and diagnosis of illnesses. The Society of Nuclear Medicine recently surveyed more than 400 hospitals and found that 48 percent of them have delayed procedures, sometimes indefinitely, because of shortages of the isotope. However, a nuclear research reactor on the University of Missouri campus, which is already producing another medical isotope, is proposing to become the first domestic producer of molybdenum 99, from which technetium 99m is derived. It also could be the first U.S reactor to do so using low-enriched uranium. Most of the foreign reactors currently use weapons-grade uranium. The reactor would be an important part of diversifying the U.S. supply of the isotope.

Source: <a href="http://lakeexpo.com/articles/2009/04/03/top\_news/21.txt">http://lakeexpo.com/articles/2009/04/03/top\_news/21.txt</a>

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## **Critical Manufacturing**

12. April 3, Racine Journal Times – (Wisconsin) Modine leak believed to have caused March wastewater plant evacuation. A chemical leak at Modine Manufacturing Co. in Racine is believed to be the cause of the wastewater treatment plant's evacuation in early March. Workers at the treatment plant noticed a strong odor March 5 and then later started complaining about light-headedness, blurred vision, headaches, and numb lips, eventually causing them to evacuate the plant. Plant employees investigated the cause of the symptoms and discovered that on March 4 Modine had a chemical leak, the chief of operations for water and wastewater utilities said April 3. The same organic chemical, diethyl-benzene, was also found in test samples at both Modine and the wastewater treatment plant. The company took immediate and appropriate action to collect the chemical, and they believed they had cleaned it up entirely. Wastewater plant officials met with officials from Modine the week of March 23 and told them they need to do a risk assessment at their facility and install new storage tanks. Modine could face fines from the wastewater plant, equivalent to employee time lost for the evacuation and investigation.

Source:

http://www.journaltimes.com/articles/2009/04/03/local\_news/doc49d69a531eba9360955992.txt

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# **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *April 4, Sun News* – (National) **Chambliss: Modification work central to depots.** Title 10 of the United States Code specifies that no more than 50 percent of funds allocated each year for depot-level maintenance and repair may go to commercial sources. The law prevents wholesale outsourcing of workload and retains a capable, ready, flexible, responsive resource under the direct control of the Federal Government. However, defense officials reportedly have been questioning whether aircraft and component modifications could be pulled from the mix. Modification of weapon systems and

subsystems is now a major component of defense depot work, and it almost certainly will grow as aging systems continue to be retained well past their expected life cycles. In a statement released April 2, a U.S. Senator from Georgia said modifications are central to depot maintenance and will become even more important in the future. A former Warner Robins ALC commander confirmed that a high-ranking Pentagon official had questioned whether modifications should be considered depot maintenance. Source: http://www.macon.com/197/story/672253.html

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# **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *April 3, Reuters* – (New York) **Suspicious package found at NY bank.** Police were investigating a suspicious package containing white powder found on April 3 at a Citibank branch office in New York's financial district, authorities said. The package was discovered shortly after 9 a.m. at the building at 100 Williams Street in downtown Manhattan, a spokesman for the New York Police Department said. The building was evacuated and the investigation was ongoing, the spokesman said. Citibank issued a statement saying: "We alerted authorities after discovering an envelope with an unknown substance at a Citibank branch on William Street. We have taken appropriate actions to ensure the safety of our employees, customers and our facilities. The branch is currently closed pending a police investigation."

Source: http://uk.reuters.com/article/UKNews1/idUKTRE5325DK20090403

15. April 3, Bloomberg – (Arizona) SEC sues Arizona accountant over \$67 million fraud. U.S. regulators sued an Arizona accountant, claiming he ran a \$67 million Ponzi scheme tied to real-estate investments. A certified public accountant from Scottsdale cheated about 125 people out of investments they made with four companies he had operated since 2001, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission said in a complaint filed on April 2 in federal court in Phoenix. Investors forced the accountant into bankruptcy in November 2008. The accountant misrepresented that investor funds would be invested in loans secured by real estate and promised returns ranging from 12 percent to 22 percent, according to the complaint. He also assured investors they could seek repayment within 48 hours. Investors were encouraged to borrow money from home equity loans and retirement funds to invest with the accountant, the complaint said. In exchange for investments, the accountant and his companies issued unsecured demand promissory notes stating returns of 3 percent to 20 percent a year.

 $\underline{http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087\&sid=aTwOvEqD8MYY\&refer=home}$ 

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# **Transportation Sector**

16. *April 6, News Tribune* – (Washington) **Snoqualmie Pass: Avalanche danger closes lanes of I-90, causes delays.** Warm weather forced crews to close multiple lanes of

westbound Interstate 90 at Snoqualmie Pass because of avalanche danger, causing massive delays. At the height of the delays the afternoon of April 5, traffic was backed up 18 miles with delays lasting more than four hours at the summit. Snow slid off rock faces onto lanes of the highway while the temperatures rose to a high of 60 degrees. Snowplows lined up inside the blocked off area waiting to clear any slides. Temperatures rose April 5 after heavy snow, causing fresh snow from recent storms to melt quickly and become unstable. Lanes were reopened as temperatures fell again, causing the snowpack to become more stable.

Source: http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/northwest/story/700323.html

- 17. April 6, KRTV 3 Great Falls (Montana) Damaged I-15 Great Falls bridge to be inspected. Bridge inspectors are expected to be in Great Falls early April 6 to determine just how badly a bridge over Interstate 15 was damaged in an accident on April 4. Normally more than 10,000 vehicles each day that travels on the northbound lanes of Interstate 15 through Great Falls. The highway is filled with shattered concrete. Great Falls police say that a tractor trailer hauling heavy machinery was traveling northbound on I-15 with a load that was too high to clear the bridge. The impact of the accident resulted in two beams being broken, and now the Department of Transportation (DOT) will look into what needs to be done so that highway can be re-opened to traffic. "We intend to have an evaluation team out here first thing in the morning (April 6), to evaluate the condition of the structure [and] to see how much damage is actually done [to the bridge]," explained a Montana DOT spokesman. The repairing of the bridge will be a bigger task as the DOT needs to get special beams, according to the spokesman. Source: <a href="http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=10132333">http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=10132333</a>
- 18. *April 5, Aero-News* (Florida) **SATSAir plane makes forced landing on Florida street.** The pilot of an air-taxi flight, enroute from Page Field (FMY) in Ft. Myers, Florida to St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE), made a successful forced landing on April 3, touching down safely on a street in North Port, Florida. The aircraft was a Cirrus SR22, being operated by SATSair charter service as Aerocab flight SYK27. Neither the pilot nor his two passengers were injured. According to WWSB 7 reports, North Port Fire Department officials said the plane came down shortly before 7 p.m. after its engine lost power. The pilot first intended to land on I-75, but ultimately chose to land near the intersection of Ponce De Leon Blvd. and N. Biscayne Dr. in North Port. Officials stated the plane clipped some power lines on its approach, but landed safely. The road was closed into the evening until the FAA arrived on scene and the airplane could be removed.

 $\label{eq:source:http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=2db99c6a-3bf0-4335-a2ea-ef65d037883a$ 

19. *April 4, KFVS 12 Cape Girardeau* – (Illinois) **Fire at Williamson County airport.**Crews from Marion, Herrin, Lake of Egypt, and Carterville rushed to the Williamson County airport to battle a fire inside the main hangar. Airport crews were able to get the planes out in time before the fire spread to the inside of the building. The Williamson County Fire chief tells Heartland News the blaze started in a trash can outside the hangar then moved up into the insulation on the interior walls. The chief also says this fire

could have been much worse if the airport's crews had not removed the aircraft from the hangar as quickly as they did. There is no word yet on how the fire started in the trash can.

Source: <a href="http://www.kfvs12.com/Global/story.asp?S=10131750&nav=8H3xIGdi">http://www.kfvs12.com/Global/story.asp?S=10131750&nav=8H3xIGdi</a>

- 20. April 4, Aviation Herald (Indiana) Northwest DC95 at Indianapolis on April 3 2009, unruly passenger. The crew of a Northwest Airlines flight NW-1007 from Detroit, Michigan to Indianapolis, Indiana requested police to meet the aircraft at Indianapolis due to an unruly passenger on board. A 34-year-old passenger pushed a flight attendant and attacked the other with her glass after the flight attendants refused to serve more alcohol to the woman. The police arrested the woman and filed charges. Source: <a href="http://avherald.com/h?article=41784dd9&opt=4865">http://avherald.com/h?article=41784dd9&opt=4865</a>
- 21. April 3, HS Daily Wire (National) Composite materials extend life of existing **bridges.** University of Kansas (KU) engineers are testing a new class of devices that could double the life of America's existing bridges using composite materials. "This is the kind of technology that will allow our existing infrastructure — as well as new bridges — to be safer for longer," said an associate professor of aerospace engineering at KU. "The use of composites can double or more the life of these steel structures and the application is created with an eye toward cost and ease of use." Composite doublers were originally used to repair cracks around stress points and rivets in airplanes. They take stress that would cause the rivet or crack to fail and allow that stress to pass through the composite material and over the rivet or crack without stressing the airplane. To create these "detail doubler fuses" for bridges, layers of composite material are applied to a joint or stress point on a bridge. Once set, the doubler takes the stress from a car or truck and allows it to pass without the joint receiving any stress, extending the life of the bridge. "We are building these as a fatigue 'fuse," said the associate professor. "When they are about to fail, they pop off of the joint, and we will include an indicator whether it's bright red paint or some other form — that will serve as an obvious sign that it needs to be replaced. One of the major problems with bridges and the inspection process is that you cannot always see the problems. There are some systems that are being developed, but we felt this would be a simple, inexpensive indicator that would simultaneously double the life of the structures being sensed." Once the materials are ready for full use, a bridge inspector could do a normal inspection, and when fatigue points are found, the composite doubler could be applied on the spot, allowed to set and ready to extend the life of a bridge.

Source: http://www.hsdailywire.com/single.php?id=7707

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# **Postal and Shipping Sector**

22. April 4, Modesto Bee – (California) Lawmaker's Modesto office cleared after another suspicious package scare. The Modesto office of a U.S. Representative was evacuated on April 3 after an intern in the mailroom came upon a suspicious package that was later found to contain tea, which possibly was sent as part of nationwide protests against big government spending, authorities said. Nothing toxic was found in

the envelope, and no injuries were reported. The Representative was in Washington, D.C., when the envelope was found, according to a news release. The incident started about 2 p.m. in the office at 3509 Coffee Road in North Modesto. The intern saw the package and alerted office staff, who called the Modesto Fire Department and U.S. Capitol Police as part of protocol. About 20 people from the building, including those in the congressman's office and two mortgage firms, were evacuated as a precaution. At about 3 p.m., the Stanislaus County Hazardous Materials Response Team went into the office. A Modesto Fire Battalion chief said their monitors showed there was nothing dangerous, so the hazmat team double-bagged the sealed envelope and turned it over to the FBI. Authorities determined the granular substance to be tea that fell out of an open tea bag inside the envelope.

Source: <a href="http://www.modbee.com/featured/story/654520.html">http://www.modbee.com/featured/story/654520.html</a> See also: <a href="http://www.wmur.com/news/19097443/detail.html">http://www.wmur.com/news/19097443/detail.html</a>

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# **Agriculture and Food Sector**

23. April 6, USAgNet – (Kentucky) Avian flu found on Western Kentucky poultry farm. State and federal authorities are investigating a finding of suspected non-pathogenic or low-pathogenic avian influenza in a single broiler/breeder poultry farm in Western Kentucky. The strain poses minimal risk to human health and is not the high-pathogenic strain associated with human and poultry deaths in other countries. The state veterinarian has quarantined the farm, which produces hatching eggs for Perdue Farms Inc. Perdue plans to depopulate 20,000 chickens in two houses on the farm. "The state and federal government and Perdue are acting aggressively to contain and eliminate the disease," a state veterinarian said. "There is no evidence that any infected poultry are in the human food supply as a result of this infection. We will do what is necessary to minimize the disruption to overseas trade." The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is conducting surveillance on backyard flocks within a 2-mile radius of the farm. No virus has been isolated and no poultry deaths have been found in connection with the infection.

Source: <a href="http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=758&yr=2009">http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=758&yr=2009</a>

24. *April 4, Digital Journal Science* – (International) **H5N1 avian virus adapting to pigs, closer to human variation.** The H5N1 virus appears to have adapted to operate in swine populations, a report in the Archives of Virology finds. The H5N1 virus appears to have successfully mutated toward residence in pigs. While the pig variety may be less virulent than its avian-oriented cousins, it is acknowledged among virologists that the transference to the swine environment is a precursor to human infection. The H5N1 viruses were isolated from pigs in Indonesia and were tested on mice. The pig-oriented variation was considerably less devastating to the exposed mice than the avian H5N1 species. The finding suggests that in growing in pigs, the virus may have become less harmful to mammals in general, the authors report. That sounds reassuring, but the authors say it may mean the virus is one step closer to turning into a human pandemic strain, according to a writer in the report for the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy.

Source: http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/270449

See also:

http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/mar3109swine-jw.html

25. April 4, Digital Science Journal – (California) California firm recalls frozen chicken products. EDS Wrap and Roll Foods LLC., a Haywood, California firm, is recalling approximately 12,460 pounds of frozen chicken egg roll products. The products were recalled because they contain black pepper spice products that may be linked to a multistate outbreak of salmonellosis. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) learned of the problem from the California Department of Public Health as a result of an ongoing investigation into the dry spice recall announced by FDA. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with the consumption of these frozen chicken egg rolls. The chicken egg roll products were distributed to restaurants and institutions in California.

Source: http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/270477

26. April 4, Digital Science Journal – (International) Poisonous spiders spotted on store bought organic grapes. Poisonous spiders have been spotted in store-bought clusters of grapes in Ohio, Boston, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. As organic produce becomes more prevalent and the amount of chemical pesticides and insecticides on farms is reduced, it is almost certain that more insects will show up on food — both in the fields and on the shelves. "IPM (integrated pest management) is very conventional in the table-grape industry and has been for a while now," the president of the California Table Grape Commission says. "It's just a smart, logical way to grow grapes, and spiders are a beneficial part of that." In vineyards spiders account for 95 percent of predators used in IPM. Some of the vines have 10-50 spiders on them. Increasing percentages of black widows are being used. This is posing a serious problem though for the humans who purchase the grapes. Not only do black widows thrive in organically farmed grape orchards where insects of all types abound, but they are also thought to be resistant to many of the newer, less toxic insecticides and pesticides currently used by conventional growers.

Source: http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/270444

See also: http://www.gourmet.com/food/2009/04/spiders-in-grapes

27. April 3, Cattle Network – (New York) New York firm recalls chicken base products imported from an unapproved source. Perk-Up, Inc., a corporation having a principal executive office in White Plains, New York, is recalling 114,540 pounds of chicken base products that were ineligible for import to the United States, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced on April 3. Perk-Up, Inc. is recalling these products because the chicken base products do not meet poultry products inspection or poultry exemption requirements. Specifically, it could not be determined that the poultry ingredients used in the chicken base products were prepared under inspection as required by federal regulations or under an eligible foreign inspection system determined to be equivalent. The poultry ingredient is determined to be ineligible when the source of the ingredients cannot be determined. The chicken base

products were imported from China on various dates from May 2008 to September 2008. The chicken base products were sent to distribution establishments nationwide. The problem was discovered after FSIS personnel identified the chicken base products in the marketplace. FSIS has received no reports of illness as a result of consuming this product.

Source: http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Content.asp?ContentID=304233

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### **Water Sector**

28. April 2, Virginian-Pilot – (North Carolina) CIA exercise turns up security concerns at **NC water plant.** The Elizabeth City water plant is vulnerable to attack, most likely from vandals or someone with a grudge rather than from terrorists, a team from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) training base at Harvey Point found recently. The specific weaknesses remain secret. "Nobody is supposed to know about it," said the Pasquotank County sheriff. The assessment served as a training exercise for the CIA and an alert to local officials, said the director of Elizabeth City public utilities. There was no imminent threat, he said. But an assessment was needed just in case. Elizabeth City's water system of about 7,000 customers was rated as a low priority for a terrorist attack, he said. The CIA team spent about three hours evaluating the 83-year-old water plant using a rating system called CARVER, an acronym for criticality, accessibility, recoverability, vulnerability, effect on population, and recognizability. This is not the first time the local system has been tested. After the September 11th attacks, the Federal Government required the more than 53,000 community water systems to be assessed for vulnerability and reported to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The three primary threats to public water systems, the EPA says, are chemical or biological contamination, explosions, or a cyberattack on the control system. A new fence and a remote-controlled gate are the most obvious security upgrades to the property. Source: http://hamptonroads.com/2009/04/cia-exercise-turns-security-concerns-ncwater-plant

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

29. April 6, Medpage Today – (National) Physicians under gun to comply with 'Red Flag' Identity Theft Rules. Physicians' offices and hospitals have less than a month to comply with a new Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regulation to deter identity theft. The so-called Red Flag Rule requires physician offices, clinics, and hospitals to conduct a risk assessment to identify gaps in their billing process that might be putting patients at risk of identity theft. They must also establish procedures to prevent such problems and respond to them if they occur. Starting May 1, physicians who fail to comply could be slapped with fines of \$2,500 per violation. In addition to the fines, failing to comply with the rule could expose physicians to lawsuits in the case of identity theft. Source:

http://www.medpagetoday.com/PracticeManagement/PracticeManagement/13608

30. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Maine) **Jackson Lab settles with EPA.** The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine has agreed to pay a fine of \$161,680 for improperly handling and storing hazardous materials. The Bangor Daily News reports that officials of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency say ether was involved. Lab officials said the fine stems from an EPA inspection in November 2006 and that the laboratory quickly addressed the issues that were raised. Lab officials said most involved minor record keeping and none represented any real threat to the environment or public safety. Source: <a href="http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20090403-NEWS-90403005">http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20090403-NEWS-90403005</a>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

31. April 5, Associated Press – (National) Gridlock stalls replacement of aging air tankers. Despite its age, the Air Force still needs the KC-135 aerial refueling plane for a critical mission: keeping its fighter jets and other planes flying as far and long as possible. The tanker planes were built in the late 50s and early 60s and were supposed to fly for 20 years. The failure to replace the fleet of 450 planes reveals much of what is wrong with how the military buys weapons. Bitter competition between defense contractors, heavy pressure by members of Congress eager to bring jobs to their districts, and bungling by the military have caused the delay. So, while the KC-135 has gotten by with a patchwork of new engines and navigation systems, the cost of keeping it flying is growing by the year. And the potential price tag for a fleet of replacements is closing in on \$100 billion. The Secretary of Defense plans to try again this spring to award a new contract. But the hurdles still remain. Even if the Pentagon finally picks a winner, it will be years before new planes roll off the assembly line. That means the KC-135 will test the limits of how long the Air Force can keep a plane flying. Some of the tankers may eventually hit 80 years old. The Air Force fears the geriatric planes may eventually spend more time in the shop than in the sky. The cost of carrying out that mission is growing. The Pentagon shifted about \$3 billion meant for the new tanker to fixing the KC-135, saying the old plane is still reliable. Source:

 $\frac{http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hGrJ4gNCDUMKp33g8dDaEccXk6mwD97CKQVG1}{}$ 

32. April 4, Deseret News – (National) Air Force bases are at risk, report said. Many key U.S. Air Force bases and organizations never adequately created or tested plans about how to continue essential operations in case of a terrorist attack or natural disasters from earthquakes to tornadoes. In fact, many never even took the first step to figure which of their operations are essential and must continue. Pentagon inspectors concluded after looking at such plans — or lack of them — at bases nationwide that the Air Force does not have "reasonable assurance that operations could continue during emergencies and other contingencies." That is according to reports by the Air Force Audit Agency obtained by the Deseret News through a Freedom of Information Act request. The lack of preparation, the report concluded, meant "Essential operational units were at increased risk for mission degradation or failure in a crisis or situation disrupting normal

operations." The main report was once classified "for official use only," and the version released was partially censored. It said 17 major Air Force organizations were evaluated for "Continuity of Operations" plans, but the Air Force blacked out the list of exactly which organizations it had evaluated. However, the Deseret News previously, through a separate request, obtained a report that looked just at Hill Air Force Base in Utah. The report showed Hill was among the organizations that auditors said had not planned properly.

Source: http://deseretnews.com/article/705295321/Air-Force-bases-are-at-risk-report-says.html

33. *April 3, Buffalo New* – (New York) **Grenade scare shuts court for two hours.** For two hours on the afternoon of April 2, hundreds of Erie County, New York Family Court workers and members of the public were kept outside the building after a Buffalo woman tried to smuggle in what turned out to be a fake grenade. The evacuation began at about 1 p. m., when a state court officer spotted an X-ray image of a device that looked like a hand grenade inside the woman's purse as she attempted to pass through the security checkpoint in the lobby of the seven-story building. Three hours later, members of the Erie County Sheriff's Bomb Squad determined it was an imitation device. The suspect was charged with first-degree placement of a false bomb or hazardous substance in a public place. She was taken to the Erie County Holding Center and was expected to be arraigned April 3 in City Court, a police spokesman said. Source: <a href="http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/628119.html">http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/628119.html</a>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

- 34. *April 5, KTUL 8 Tulsa* (Oklahoma) **Fire causes EMS to lose ambulance.** Emergency crews were called out to help one of their own after fire broke out at a Claremore ambulance company early on April 5. One ambulance was totally destroyed and several other emergency vehicles sustained heavy smoke damage at the Oolagah-Talala EMS in Oklahoma. The fire, the cause of which is still unclear, severely reduced their fleet. "Our dispatch is in another location, and is open and running just fine," one responder said. Source: http://www.ktul.com/news/stories/0409/610617.html
- 35. April 5, Highlands County News Sun (Florida) HRMC does the work of two ERs during scare. With Florida Hospital's emergency room locked down due to an anthrax hoax on April 2, Highlands Regional Medical Center suddenly found itself serving the entire county. After the hospital's chief nursing officer heard the news on the radio, the hospital declared a code yellow emergency, increased security, and was organizing its response. She explained that Homeland Security funds received in the past meant the hospital had the special equipment and training needed for just this kind of situation. She added that the previous expansion and upgrades of the emergency room provided the medical staff the flexibility they needed to keep the hospital's operation on track. Incoming patients were sorted into three categories: Critical, urgent, and non-urgent patients. Non-urgent patients comprise the biggest volume, and critical patients take the most time. By sorting out the non-urgent and using the area normally reserved for out-

patient surgery preparation, the medical staff was able to streamline the process and keep the line of patients moving.

Source: http://www.newssun.com/news/0405-ct-HRMC

36. April 4, WAAY 31 Huntsville – (Alabama) Sirens fail during storm. According to Alabama Emergency Management Agency officials, when NOAA issued a tornado warning they tried to sound their 116 sirens with no success. It was not until the third try that the sirens sounded. It caused a seven and a half minute delay in warning. Officials say this has never been a problem before and that for the rest of the tornado warnings through the evening, the sirens sounded without a hitch. Emergency officials say the problem most likely came from too much radio traffic overloading the system, causing a computer glitch.

Source: <a href="http://www.waaytv.com/Global/story.asp?S=10130072">http://www.waaytv.com/Global/story.asp?S=10130072</a>

37. April 4, Associated Press – (Louisiana) Hurricane drills in 6 coastal parishes, Biloxi. Docks at Lakefront Airport took the place of rooftops and windows in the exercise, one of a half-dozen around Louisiana's coast after three days of tabletop exercises with a wide variety of state and local agencies. About 2,200 troops participated in Hurricane Drills on April 4 in Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, St. Landry, Cameron, and Calcasieu parishes, a National Guard spokesman said. About 1,700 were in New Orleans, he said. Also on April 4, the Mississippi National Guard was holding a hurricane exercise in Biloxi, where the tabletop drill used the erratic path taken by Hurricane Elena, which struck the state in 1985.

**Source:** <a href="http://www.nola.com/newsflash/index.ssf?/base/national-0/1238901104323250.xml&storylist=louisiana">http://www.nola.com/newsflash/index.ssf?/base/national-0/1238901104323250.xml&storylist=louisiana</a>

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# **Information Technology**

38. April 5, Computerworld – (International) Conficker copycat prowls for victims, says Microsoft. An old, but little-known worm has copied some of the infection strategies of Conficker, the worm that raised a ruckus recently, Microsoft Corp. security researchers said on April 3. Neeris, which harks back to May 2005, is now exploiting the same Windows bug that Conficker put to good use, and it is spreading through flash drives, another Conficker characteristic, said researchers at the Microsoft Malware Protection Center. According to the researchers, Neeris' makers recently added an exploit for the MS08-067 vulnerability that Microsoft patched last October. The emergency update, one of the rare times Microsoft has issued a patch outside its usual monthly schedule, fixed a flaw in the Windows Server service, which is used for file- and print-sharing by Windows PCs. Conficker, the worm that began using a new communications scheme to receive commands from its hacker controllers on April 1, exploited the same MS08-067 vulnerability to devastating effect in late 2008 and early 2009. In January, for instance, Conficker infected millions of machines, many of them by exploiting MS08-067. "Neeris [also] spreads via Autorun," the researchers said in an entry to the malware center's blog. "The new Neeris variant even adds the same 'Open folder to view files' AutoPlay option that Conficker does."

#### Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9131139&intsrc=news ts head

39. *April 3*, *SoftPedia* – (International) **Trend Micro rushes to patch 0-day vulnerability.** The development department at anti-virus vendor Trend Micro has been recently hard at work to plug a hole in the Internet Security 2008 and 2009 products after someone posted a PoC exploit for it. Trend Micro is one of the largest providers of anti-virus and security solutions in the world. Its flagship product is PC-cillin Internet Security, currently known as Trend Micro Internet Security (TIS). The company also develops HouseCall, one of the first free online anti-virus scanners. On 30 March 2009, someone going by the handle of "b1@ckeYe" posted a proof-of-concept exploit code for a privilege escalation vulnerability, affecting TIS 2008 and 2009, both standard and professional editions, on the exploit-tracking Web site milw0rm. The flaw is located in the 2.52.0.1002 version of the tmactmon.sys (TrendMicro Activity Monitor Module) component and is classified by SecurityFocus as a boundary-condition error. The PoC creator credits research on driver flaws exploitation.

Source: <a href="http://news.softpedia.com/news/Trend-Micro-Rushes-to-Patch-0-Day-Vulnerability-108549.shtml">http://news.softpedia.com/news/Trend-Micro-Rushes-to-Patch-0-Day-Vulnerability-108549.shtml</a>

#### **Internet Alert Dashboard**

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Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.

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# **Communications Sector**

40. April 4, CNET News – (National) Comcast e-mail access suffers outage. Comcast email servers experienced an outage, according to the company's Twitter feed and a message on Comcast.net. A fix arrived hours after expected. Users of the company's email service have been out of luck accessing the service since "at least" 6 a.m., according to an e-mail tip received by CNET News on April 4. Although Comcast did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the matter, its Comcastcares Twitter feed, as well as its Comcast.net service hub, did confirm the outage. It has been communicating with the "server company"—the maker of the server — to help resolve the problem. While a fix was previously expected at 11 a.m., according to the Twitter feed, e-mail is still down. "I do apologize," tweeted the director of digital care for Comcast. "I am waiting for an update on the new errors." No outgoing or incoming email has been lost by users of its residential e-mail system, SmartZone. Those accounts come free with Comcast's high-speed Internet service, to which he said 14.7 million people subscribe. "There's quite a backlog" of messages in the server queue, the director said, that are expected to fully clear out in the next few hours, depending on the volume. A Comcast spokesman did not have a figure for how many subscribers actively use the

free residential e-mail accounts, but he did clarify that Comcast's paid business-class e-mail accounts, which rely on Microsoft Communication Services, were not affected by the outage. The spokesman said the company has not sent out an e-mail to subscribers regarding the outage.

Source: <a href="http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035\_3-10212471-94.html">http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035\_3-10212471-94.html</a>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

41. *April 6, Charleston Post Courier* – (South Carolina) **Search is on for bomb remains.**During World War II, American bomber crews honed their skills in the pinewoods and swamps of the Francis Marion National Forest, dropping dummy bombs — some filled only with sand or water — to prepare for real wartime runs over Nazi Germany and the Pacific. The government is now investigating whether any unexploded ordnance might have been left behind, and whether it is dangerous enough to require a cleanup. At first glance, it appears that no serious hazards remain. But the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wants to expand its study of the area, probing for ordnance that could be buried deep in the ground or plugged under black, gooey swamps. There is evidence that they may have used high explosives, said the project manager of the site inspection program for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Charleston, referring to old military documents. "In actuality, we can't rule out that they didn't." In the meantime, Corps officials advise anyone who comes across anything that looks like unexploded ordinance to report it to authorities.

Source:

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2009/apr/06/search\_on\_bomb\_remains77716/

42. April 6, Bloomberg – (Utah) Gas drillers, toxic dust threaten to erase Utah's ancient art. Every day scores of industrial trucks pass through Utah's Nine Mile Canyon. They kick up plumes of dust that archaeologists say are damaging thousands of prehistoric carvings and paintings crafted by some of North America's earliest inhabitants — the Fremont culture, the Utes, and others who lived here more than 1,000 years ago. The dust can rise 100 feet or more above the valley floor. The industry in question is natural-gas extraction. While salient environmental impact appears to be restricted to the unsightly drilling sites, dust clouds kicked up by trucks are fouling the entire area. Magnesium chloride is spread over the road to keep dust down, but the chemical compound, which eventually dries and joins the dust in the plume, is a corrosive agent that may damage the ancient art.

Source:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088\&sid=aJte0d9NfAFY\&refer=mus}}\underline{e}$ 

43. *April 3, Prescott Daily Courier* – (Arizona) **Forest officials plan burns this week.**Arizona fire officials plan to conduct prescribed burns during the week of April 6-10 if weather conditions are appropriate. The possible areas for burning are in the Ash Creek area about 10 miles south of Prescott; or southwest of the community of Cherry, which is north of Highway 169. Depending on conditions, any of the areas may be treated during the five-day period. Smoke may be visible for numerous days in the surrounding areas. No road closures are expected, but fire managers ask visitors to be cautious when driving in these areas. These burns are part of an ongoing fuels reduction project to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire on the Prescott National Forest.

http://www.dcourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&subsectionID=1&articleID=66601

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### **Dams Sector**

44. *April 6, CNNMoney.com* – (National) **The dam infrastructure problem.** The American Society of Civil Engineers recently said that over 1,800 dams nationwide are deficient, and their failure could result in loss of life. That is almost a five-fold increase from 2001. "There's a huge gap between what we've been able to repair and what we need to repair," said a dam safety manager who helped author the engineer society's report. "And the number has been growing dramatically." The price tag to fix these worst-case dams is around \$8 billion, he said. Fixing all the dams that need repair — estimated at over 4,000 — would run closer to \$50 billion. The question is: Does all that money need to be spent and how immediate is the threat? Experts say most dam failures would be gradual and quite predictable. Most dams posing the greatest danger are in the eastern part of the country, for two reasons. First, they tend to be older. But the eastern part of the country is also more densely populated. One of the reasons there has been such an increase in high risk dams, said the dam safety manager, is not because the dam itself has deteriorated, but rather because more people have moved closer to it. The engineering society recommends more funds for dam repair and inspection, more emergency planning, and greater public education, among other things. Fifty million dollars were set aside in the stimulus bill to repair dams run by the Department of Agriculture, but that is all that was allocated specifically for dam work, the dam safety manager said. He is calling on Congress to approve \$200 million to shore up the most dangerous dams over the next five years.

Source:

 $\underline{\text{http://money.cnn.com/2009/04/06/news/economy/dams/index.htm?section=money\_lates}\ t$ 

45. April 5, Temple Daily Telegram – (Texas) Breach impact put in spotlight: Officials analyze earthen dams. Part of Bell County's infrastructure has been classified as "high hazard" by the National Resources Conservation Service, a designation that requires the development of emergency action plans. Many people may not have considered the earthen dams spread around the county in three different watersheds as infrastructure, but during times of heavy rains the dams are critical for preventing flooding. The

designation has nothing to do with the structural integrity of the dams, but is instead a reflection of increased development downstream. Eight of 25 earthen dams in the Bell County jurisdiction of the Elm Creek Watershed Authority are being analyzed to determine the impact a breach from one or more of the dams would have downstream. Another three dams in the Donahoe Creek Watershed, which spans southern Bell County, are being analyzed because they are potentially "high hazard." A consultant with Elm Creek Watershed said the NRCS classification was based purely on a visual inspection of the area downstream from the dams. Since it looked like loss of life or significant loss of property could result in the event of a breach, the state agency moved the dams up on the classification list.

Source: http://www.tdtnews.com/story/2009/4/4/56978

46. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Montana; Wyoming) **Yellowtail Dam in need of some repairs.** The Bureau of Reclamation plans to lower the level of Bighorn Lake by about 2 feet in advance of work to grout and seal spots where water is seeping between the large concrete blocks used to build Yellowtail Dam. The Montana area manager for the Bureau says the seepage causes ice to form on the face of the dam in the winter. He says ice formations of up to 50 feet wide and 30 to 120 feet long can break loose, threatening high voltage power lines and transformers below. This winter, Bureau workers were lowered with a boom truck from the top of the dam to chip away at the ice. He says the seepage may have become more pronounced this winter because the reservoir has been fuller in recent years, after years of having been at drought levels. Bighorn Lake straddles the Montana-Wyoming border.

Source: http://www.kxmb.com/getArticle.asp?ArticleId=355396

47. April 3, United Press International – (Texas) Funds for Dallas levee repairs in question. Repairs to the vast levee system in Dallas may not be paid for by \$459 million in approved federal funds, an official says. The director of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Trinity River project said while the U.S. Congress approved the funds in 2007 for the Texas project, those funds may be unavailable when levee repairs take place, the Dallas Morning News said April 3. "Part of it will depend on what the fixes are and how those fixes relate to the authorization for raising the levees, for instance," he added. The authorized funds were designated for Water Resources Development Act use, meaning they cannot be used for basic maintenance of the levees, the Morning News said. Under the act, the funds have been earmarked for uses such as widening existing levees, ecosystem restoration, and drainage improvements. The Morning News said questions regarding repair funding comes in the wake of a Corps report that questioned the levees' ability to protect Dallas.

Source: <a href="http://www.upi.com/Top\_News/2009/04/03/Funds-for-Dallas-levee-repairs-in-question/UPI-13391238771801/">http://www.upi.com/Top\_News/2009/04/03/Funds-for-Dallas-levee-repairs-in-question/UPI-13391238771801/</a>

48. *April 3, KIRO 7 Seattle* – (Washington) **Beaver dam causes Whidbey Island mudslides.** A beaver dam that gave way during heavy rains triggered slides, washouts, and flooding, sending tons of mud, debris, and trees into eight homes near Clinton on Whidbey Island, KIRO 7 Eyewitness News reported. Video showed giant logs smashed into the foundation of one home and a muddy mess surrounding another house in a

neighborhood of mud-covered streets. The Island County director of emergency management said the flooding and slides were caused by a beaver dam that broke at 4 p.m. on April 2. Water behind the dam flooded down toward a culvert underneath Glendale Road. The water was too much for the culvert to handle. Emergency crews from Island County Public Works responded and tried to use pumps and piping to move more water over the top of the road so it would not be damaged, he said. Source:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.kirotv.com/weather/19086195/detail.html} \# SLANTLY\_commentformheight::298}$ 

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